Call today to arrange your school’s visit! 
(845) 486-7751

“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choices are prepared to choose wisely. The safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education...To prepare each citizen to choose wisely and to enable him to choose freely are paramount functions of the schools in a democracy.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt 
Message for American Education Week 
September 27, 1938
Introduction

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum fosters research and education on the lives and times of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Eleanor Roosevelt, the Great Depression, and World War II and their continuing impact on contemporary life. Its Education Department staff conducts educational programs designed for K-12, college and university students; adult learners; and the general public. These programs include classroom workshops, Museum programs, teacher development seminars, and outreach. All K-12 educational programs at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum are provided free of charge and are supported in part by the Robert L. Bier Education Center at the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute.

The National Park Service preserves and interprets cultural and natural resources in order to inspire and educate the public and ensure protection of these precious resources for future generations. Education programs, whether presented in the historic structures or on the grounds of the Home of FDR, Val-Kill, Vanderbilt Mansion, or back in the classroom, cultivate an understanding of the significance of our national historic sites and promote stewardship of these special places. All educational programs are provided free of charge.

THE HENRY A. WALLACE VISITOR AND EDUCATION CENTER

The Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center serves as a joint visitor and education center for those who come to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Home of FDR National Historic Sites. The Center's facilities include three classrooms for interactive and hands-on activities, each with a fifty student capacity, and state-of-the-art audio-visual facilities with distance learning and video conferencing capability. A brown-bag lunchroom is also available. The Wallace Center also serves tourists visiting the Presidential Library and Roosevelt Home with an introductory film and orientation exhibits, museum store, seasonal café and ample restroom facilities.

Contact Us

Contact us for directions, reservations for education programs, additional information, or to arrange a complimentary teacher’s previst admission pass.

Telephone: (845) 486-7751
E-mail: roosevelt.library@nara.gov
Website: www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu

Teacher discounts for classroom materials are available at the New Deal Store at the Wallace Center and at the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Historical Association bookstores at Val-Kill and Vanderbilt Mansion.

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Collaborations

National Council for the History of Education

The Roosevelt Presidential Library is a cooperating organization with the National Council for History Education. The NCHE seeks to foster communication between K-12 educators and academic historians through conferences, teacher institutes, and other vehicles.

For more information, call (440) 835-1775.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The Roosevelt Presidential Library is a cooperating organization with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The NEH is an independent grant-making agency of the United States government dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation and public programs in the humanities.

For more information, call (800) NEH-1121.

Teaching American History Grants

The Roosevelt Presidential Library is a cooperating organization with the U.S. Department of Education. Teaching American History program designed to raise students achievement by improving teachers’ knowledge and understanding of traditional U.S. history.

For more information, call (202) 205-0147.

National History Day

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is the site of the Mid-Hudson Regional Competition of National History Day. Based on the model of science fairs National History Day engages students in grades 6-12 in the process of discovery and interpretation of primary source documents. The Roosevelt Presidential Library’s Education Department provides students with a Presidential Research Guide designed to help them develop and narrow their research topics and serves as a resource for students providing interviews, guidance and access to more than 17 million primary source documents. For more information contact www.nyshistoryday.org.

Customized Workshops and Programs

The Roosevelt Presidential Library and the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Sites offer archival and audio-visual materials that can be obtained by mail or via the internet. Each agency’s education staff is also available for presentations in the classroom, at meetings and conferences, and for off-site teacher development workshops tailored to the needs of individual teachers or school districts. For more information call (845) 485-7761 (Roosevelt Presidential Library) or (845) 489-2658 (National Park Service).
Pare Lorentz is celebrated for his great contribution to the world of documentary film. An American original—writer, director, and editor—Lorentz was selected by FDR to “photograph America to show what it’s like to our people.” Among his most important films, The Plow that Broke the Plains explored the origins of the Dust Bowl and along with The River, his film about the Mississippi, marked him as one of the first Americans to appreciate the need for environmental stewardship.

His work is continued by the Pare Lorentz Center at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library which creates new education productions on DVD in the spirit of Pare Lorentz. Each DVD is between 15 and 30 minutes long and is based on vintage film footage from the 1930s and 1940s and offers a brief introduction giving historical context to stimulate classroom discussion.

The Pare Lorentz Center also provides an Online Lending Library free to educators including archival film footage from the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library’s collection, and documentaries, government films and newsreels of the 1930s-1940s.

**Pare Lorentz Center**

**Topic videos produced by the Pare Lorentz Center:**

(Includes Study Guide)

- The Japanese-American Internment
- Pearl Harbor
- Red Tailed Angels: The Story of the Tuskegee Airmen
- Rights and sounds of the FSA (1935-1943)
- The Roosevelt Rap

**Samples of Lending Library Documentaries from the Roosevelt Era.**

- Conquer by the Clock
- Eleanor Roosevelt’s South Pacific Tour
- FDR in Cairo and Tehran
- Modern Marvels: Tennessee Valley Authority
- Nuremberg
- The Dust Bowl Descent
- United Nations: 1945 Japanese Surrender

**Audio Selections from the Roosevelt Speech Collection**

- “The Only Thing We Have To Fear” 1st Inaugural Address, March 4, 1933
- “I was One-Third of a Nation” 2nd Inaugural Address, January 20, 1937
- “The Arsenal of Democracy” Fireside Chat from the White House, December 29, 1940
- Four Freedoms’ Annual Message to Congress, December 8, 1941
- “My Little Dog Fala” Address at Teamster’s Union Dinner, September 23, 1944

Check out the complete Pare Lorentz Center collection of videos or CDs at: www.parelorentzcenter.org

The Pare Lorentz Center is supported by a grant from the New York Community Trust.
Pretend You Are the President

Pretend You Are the President helps students explore the Essential Question, “Is it easy to be President?” by exploring the many duties in the “job description” of the President of the United States. Using a single day from the Roosevelt presidency as an example, students break into small groups to role-play five presidential roles: Commander-in-Chief, Head of State, Foreign Policy-Maker, Initiator of Legislation, and Political Party Leader. Participants learn by working with documents, photographs, and artifacts associated with each role. During summary discussion, students discover the complexity of the Presidency in FDR’s day as well as today.

A visit to the museum galleries of the Roosevelt Presidential Library reinforces student understanding of FDR’s handling of the presidency through examination of historical exhibits.

NYS Curriculum Standards

Social Studies: 1,2,3,4,5
Language Arts: 1,3,4

Social Studies Skills
Interpreting the functions and purposes of governments
Analyzing primary sources
Experiencing political problem solving
Understanding fundamental values and principals of American Democracy

Eleanor Roosevelt: First Lady of the World

Through the use of literature, documents, photographs and artifacts, students discover the unique qualities that made Eleanor Roosevelt a ground-breaking First Lady for our country and for all the world. While examining stories taken from Mrs. Roosevelt’s life, students compare the accounts with copies of actual primary source documents. In addition, they will have the opportunity to explore her life by surveying the contents of her wallet.

A visit to the museum galleries further expands students’ awareness of the life and times of one of the most influential women in history.

Eleanor Roosevelt’s Suitcase

The Life and Legacy of Eleanor Roosevelt

1 hour - 1.5 hour curriculum-based multidisciplinary program

A ranger pretending to be Mrs. Roosevelt’s friend will come to visit your classroom on her way to meet Eleanor at the airport. In this introductory lesson students are shown a reproduction suitcase similar to the one that Eleanor used in her travels. This program provides students with an understanding of the work of this activist, world traveler, mother and humanitarian. Her life and legacy will be explored through hands-on group activities by examining the objects in her suitcase (Eleanor’s Diplomatic passport, a photograph of Eleanor and her father, knitting needles, Eleanor’s stationary, letters written by Eleanor, “My Day” Columns, maps time period clothing, and a variety of other materials).

Booking Information

Available: Four – May
Mondays only
Offered from 9AM - 3PM

* A Ranger will visit your classroom (must be within 50 mile radius) We prefer to have multiple classes at your school, two morning sessions and two afternoon sessions.

NYS Curriculum Standards

Social Studies: 1,2,3,5

Social Studies Skills
Analyzing primary source documents
Comparing and contrasting beliefs and ideas
Necessity for establishing governments
Understanding civic rights and responsibilities

Who Lives in Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Forest?

A Forest Ecology Outreach Program

A park ranger will visit your classroom to teach students about FDR and the land he loved. Through hands-on discovery students will explore the relationship of trees and wildlife (forest ecology) found at the Roosevelt Estate by studying furs and skeletons of mammals that live in the park now and in Roosevelt’s time.

Booking Information

Available: Dec - May
Mondays only
Offered from 9AM - 2PM

* A Forest Ecology Outreach Program: A Ranger will visit your classroom (must be within 50 mile radius). We prefer to have multiple classes at your school, two morning sessions and two afternoon sessions.

*Program can accommodate up to 30 people

NYS Curriculum Standards

Social Studies: 1,2,3,5

Social Studies Skills
The Living Environment 1,4,5,6,7

Adapted to grade level curriculum standards
The website of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is an invaluable tool for teachers and students. Its Digital Archive contains over 13,000 fully digitized documents (with transcriptions), 1,000 public domain photographs (FDR, ER, the Great Depression, and World War II), and audio excerpts from some of Franklin Roosevelt’s most famous speeches. The site also includes finding aids for the more than 250 separate archival collections in the Roosevelt Presidential Library.

(www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu)

Online education materials include biographies and timelines of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, bibliographies, and a Teacher’s Guide to using primary sources in the classroom. Teacher and student activities include crossword puzzles, answers to the 101 Most Frequently Asked Questions, topically based curriculum guides, and a changing calendar of historic events, “This Month in Roosevelt History.”

Online Resources

FDR PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The website of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is an invaluable tool for teachers and students. Its Digital Archive contains over 13,000 fully digitized documents (with transcriptions), 1,000 public domain photographs (FDR, ER, the Great Depression, and World War II), and audio excerpts from some of Franklin Roosevelt’s most famous speeches. The site also includes finding aids for the more than 250 separate archival collections in the Roosevelt Presidential Library.

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THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE


The online education program, Teaching Eleanor Roosevelt, www.nps.gov/elro/teaching.htm prepared by the Eleanor Roosevelt Papers, contains lesson plans and 700 pages of historical information about the First Lady and her home at Val-Kill for use by teachers and students.

Eleanor Roosevelt, Pictorial Review, April 1930

“You cannot impart what you have not made your own. You cannot engender enthusiasm if you have lost it. Teaching is dead when the subject does not inspire enthusiasm in the teacher.”

Teacher Workshops

In today’s school environment, teachers are called upon to cover more curriculum, fulfill additional testing requirements, and awaken in their students an interest and understanding of history. How is it all possible?

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library offers a solution by conducting comprehensive teacher workshops and seminars. Drawing on its rich resources, knowledgeable staff, and a network of academic historians, teachers can sharpen their skills by attending half-day, full-day, two-day, or week-long professional development workshops. In-service credit can be arranged. Customized programs, tours, and lectures can be provided in addition to the Library’s standard offerings.

Working with Primary Sources
Developing Document-Based Questions from Primary Source Material
Using Film in the Classroom
The Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum: A Primary Source Resource for Teachers and Students

The Teacher Professional Development Seminar: The Great Depression and World War II Summer Program is a seven-day, comprehensive residential institute designed to renew and revitalize teaching on the crucial years of the Roosevelt Era. Teachers work with a noted historian of the Roosevelt Era and a Master Teacher to develop customized curriculum for use in the classroom.

For more information call the Library’s Education Specialist, Jeffrey Urbin, at (845) 486-7761.

Teaching the Hudson Valley

Teaching the Hudson Valley (THV) encourages the region’s teachers, museum and historic site staff, and park and environmental educators to work together. The resulting collaborations take students into their communities and yield lessons, activities, and resources to familiarize them with places of cultural, natural, and historic significance. Visiting heritage sites, illuminates students’ book learning, reinforcing the importance of protecting these places for future generations.

THV provides curriculum-development grants and other support to teachers and site educators, makes resources and programs for place-based education more accessible, and hosts an annual three-day institute.

Teaching the Hudson Valley is a place-based education initiative of the National Park Service, Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area and Greenway, Hudson River Estuary Program/NY State Dept. of Environmental Conservation, and Hudson River Valley Institute at Marist College.

For more information call the Education Specialist, Jeffrey Urbin, at (845) 486-7761.

Eleanor Roosevelt, Pictorial Review, April 1930

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Eleanor Roosevelt, Pictorial Review, April 1930

13
Sights and Sounds of the Farm Security Administration 1935-1943

This curriculum guide tells the story of a time when the very future of America seemed in doubt. With banks failing, jobs disappearing and even the land itself disappearing, Franklin D. Roosevelt infused the nation with words of courage and hope. "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." He then created a small government agency, the Farm Security Administration (FSA), that commissioned exceptional photographers such as Dorothea Lange and Walker Evans to chronicle the impact of the Great Depression on the people of America.

The guide includes a 13 minute documentary DVD comprised of poignant photographs and stirring sound recordings made in the 1930s, copies of insightful primary source documents, an overview of the Great Depression, the New Deal Programs developed to combat it and more than a dozen grade appropriate activities and suggestions for using the guide's materials in the classroom.

Red Tailed Angels: The Story of the Tuskegee Airmen

This curriculum guide tells the story of the Tuskegee Airmen and the controversial program created by President Roosevelt to train black military airmen to serve at a time when many people thought that blacks lacked intelligence, skill, courage and patriotism. Through their dedication and determination these young men were said to have fought and won two battles: one against Fascism in Europe, and the other against racism at home.

The guide includes a 28 minute documentary DVD comprised of historic film footage and interviews with several of the original airmen, copies of primary source documents, an overview of the Tuskegee Experiment and grade appropriate activities and suggestions for using the guide’s materials in the classroom.

The Roosevelt Rap

The Roosevelt Rap is a rhythmic audio visual timeline of the major events in the life of Franklin Roosevelt. Through fast-paced music played against a backdrop of historical images, students are introduced to over fifty facts and events that defined the Roosevelt era. In addition, the curriculum includes copies of two dozen primary source documents and teaching ideas and activities.

To obtain a copy of these DVDs, or for additional information regarding our curriculum resources contact the Library’s Education Specialist Jeffrey Libin at (845) 486-7761.
College-Level Programs

Customized college-level programs using archival material from the Roosevelt Presidential library can be arranged by contacting the library's Education Specialist, Jeffrey Ullman at (845) 486-7761. Student research in the documentary collections available through the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Issues Forum may also be adapted for the college level.

Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Issues Forum Student Research Topics Include

10th - 12th Grade, College

Franklin Roosevelt: The Leader

• His Challenges: Polio
• His Collections; Books, Ships, Stamps
• His Contributions; To Country, Nation and World

FOR: THE ANN
• His Collector's Books, Ships, Stamps
• His Challenges: Polio
• His Contributions; To Country, Nation and World

FOR: THE LEADER
• His Words and Deeds, Speeches, Freiends Club
• His State: As Governor
• His Country; As President
• His World: As Visionary

Eleanor Roosevelt

FOR: THE WOAMN
• My Day Columns
• Depression Letters to Mrs. Roosevelt
• Good Housewives
• First Federal Fax

FOR: THE ACTIVET
• Work goes on
• United Nations; Universal Declaration of Human Rights
• Daughters of American Revolution
• Residency Letter
• Franklin Documents

Great Depression

CONDITIONS
• Great Depression New York State
• FDR and the Clergy
• Share Crops Reports
• Letters to the President
• Dust Bowl
• FSA Depression Era Photographs
• Political Cartoons 1929-1937

SOLUTIONS
• Great Depression General Info
• Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Issues Forum

Franklin Roosevelt

FOR: THE ANN
• His Collector's Books, Ships, Stamps
• His Challenges: Polio
• His Contributions; To Country, Nation and World

FOR: THE LEADER
• His Words and Deeds, Speeches, Freiends Club
• His State: As Governor
• His Country; As President
• His World: As Visionary

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FOR: THE ACTIVET
• Work goes on
• United Nations; Universal Declaration of Human Rights
• Daughters of American Revolution
• Residency Letter
• Franklin Documents

Exploring the Roosevelt Waters (Stream Ecology)

This program will focus on FDR and his interest in the conservation of natural resources. Through hands-on exploration students will learn about the Roosevelt Estate, the creatures living in the Roosevelt waters at Springwood, and how the president’s management of his family estate was reflected in New Deal-era conservation programs. Students will collect data from the stream, identify and classify organisms, and participate in a game where they will apply their newly gained knowledge of freshwater ecosystems.

Growing up at Springwood

4th & 5th graders

1.5 hour program, includes a classroom activity & house tour.

All that is within me cries out to go back to my home on the Hudson River,” President Roosevelt once declared. Students will investigate five mystery bags and tour the FDR Home to discover what some of FDR’s hobbies were. This active tour will help students learn what it may have been like to grow up at “Springwood,” as well as give students an understanding of what kind of things influenced FDR’s childhood and adult life to mold the man that became the President of the United States.

NYS Curriculum Standards

Social Studies 1, 2, 3, 4

NYS Curriculum Standards

Science, Health, & Technology 1, 4, 5

English Language 1, 3

Technology & the Progressive Era: The Development of Modern America

1 hour curriculum-based house tour

The wonders of 19th century technology come to life as students explore a variety of rooms at the Vanderbill Mansion for technological evidence. Using photographic identification cards, students become detectives searching for clues to discover how 19th century technology changed the lives of the Vanderbilts and their servants, and eventually everyday life in New York State and the nation.

NYS Curriculum Standards

Social Studies 1, 2, 3, 4

NYS Curriculum Standards

Science, Health, & Technology 1, 4, 5

English Language 1, 3

Eleanor Roosevelt: An American Hero

3.5 hour curriculum-based multi-disciplinary program

Can one person change the world? This program takes an in-depth look at the life and contributions of Eleanor Roosevelt, a true “American hero.” As a delegate to the United Nations, as well as through her role as First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt worked to protect the rights of individuals and to promote the common good. This program immerses students by engaging them in the exploration of E’r’s home and how it reflected and affected her life, those around her, and the world.

This unit of study will engage students in exploring primary documents, reading and analyzing literature, utilizing Internet resources, and visiting VailHall.

NYS Curriculum Standards

Social Studies 1, 2, 3, 4

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Science, Health, & Technology 1, 4, 5

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NYS Curriculum Standards

Social Studies 1, 2, 3, 4

NYS Curriculum Standards

Science, Health, & Technology 1, 4, 5

English Language 1, 3
Directed Student Research in Primary Source Documents

NYS Curriculum Standards
Social Studies: 1, 2, 3, 4
Language Arts: 1, 2, 3, 4

Social Studies Skills
Analyzing primary source documents
Understanding and answering document-based questions
Comparing and contrasting beliefs and ideals
Debating and defending points of view

The Presidency: Day of Decision

Directed Student Research in Primary Source Documents

NYS Curriculum Standards
Social Studies: 1, 2, 3, 4
Language Arts: 1, 2, 3, 4

Social Studies Skills
Comparing and contrasting beliefs and ideals
Debating and defending points of view

Empire Forester
Franklin D. Roosevelt as a Tree Farmer

6th-12th Grade
3 hour curriculum-based multidisciplinary program

This hands-on investigation will lead students through map orientation and a hike to one of FDR’s forestry plantations. Students will participate in forestry techniques, data collection, discover forest ecology, and learn about FDR’s conservation policies. Pre-visit activities include entering data collections onto the park education data base, making graphs and writing a forestry management plan. There is also a second field trip option to a local mill and furniture factory.

Making a President

6th-12th Grade
1.5 hour program, includes a classroom activity & House Tour

Through hands-on investigation and discussion (using DBQ’s and other materials) students will examine FDR’s earlier life influences (role models, collections, education) that helped mold the man that would become the 32nd President of the United States.

Searching For Salamanders

Middle & High School
3 hour curriculum-based multidisciplinary program

This is a general life science curriculum (grades 6-8), and a high school biology/ecology curriculum, designed to partner students with their local National Parks to contribute salamander population data to the Northeast Temperate Network. The program will engage students in the collection of meaningful scientific data on salamander populations. The program will help students understand the importance of salamander populations as bio-indicators of forest health.

Servants & Stewards

7th-12th Grade, Adult

Students explore behind the scenes at the Vanderbil mansion and see the family’s life style through the servants’ eyes. The tour goes through the servants’ work areas, the back staircase, and three floors of the mansion. Participants discuss the servants lives (including immigration and employment in the U.S.) and relays in some of the responsibilities. Stewardship of our nation’s culture is the powerful “take home” message.

It’s Just that Simple:
No One Can Take Away Your Human Rights

7th-12th Grade

Every person has a right to food, shelter, education, play, the right to say what they think and be listened to, and the right to protection from abuse. In this program students will discover Eleanor Roosevelt’s role in the creation of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and discuss the relevance of these rights in their own lives. This will lead into an examination of human rights issues and movements currently underway to address them in the various parts of the world. Students will be asked to consider what ER might have done and what they can do to take action.

NYS Curriculum Standards
Social Studies: 1, 2, 3, 4
Science, Math, Technology: 1, 2, 3, 4

Prerequisite
Teacher Workshop: Spring, Summer, Fall
Teacher-Led Program, Reservations must be made.

Meets National Science Standards
Life Science Curriculum

NYS Curriculum Standards
Social Studies: 1, 2, 3, 4

NYS Social Studies Curriculum Standards
Understanding industrial growth and expansion
Exploring immigration and changes in social structure

*Can be scheduled on the hour
*Accommodates up to 30 people
*Total (Students and Adults)

Booking Information
Available: Sept - Oct; April - June
Tuesdays & Thursdays
Offered from 10AM - 1PM
prices depend on the date

*Can be scheduled on the hour
*Accommodates up to 30 people
*Total (Students and Adults)

Booking Information
Available: Sept - June
Mon & Thurs
Offered from 10AM - 1PM
*Can be scheduled on the 1/2 hour
*Accommodates up to 30 people (Students and Adult)

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